Governments, the Central Government assisted the States/UTs in the preparation of 20 Year Perspective Plans during 2002 and 2003 with the broad objectives of:

(i) assessing the existing tourism scenario in the States, like services and infrastructure available, heritage and other socio-cultural assets, natural resources, etc.;

(ii) reviewing the status of existing development/investment plans for development of tourism in the States;

(iii) evaluating the existing potential tourist destinations on the basis of the inventory of the tourism products, volume of tourist traffic, infrastructure available, etc.;

(iv) developing sustainable tourism in a time period of 20 years;

(v) providing plans with short term and long term targets, indicating activities to be undertaken by different agencies within a time frame;

(vi) indicating the likely investment on infrastructure development under different heads covering the next 20 years; and

(vii) preparing an action plan for the implementation of identified potential development schemes/projects, and for development of infrastructure in conformity with policy objectives.

(c) The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State/UT Governments including that of Orissa, for development of specific destinations, tourism circuits and organization of festivals based on proposals received from them. During the Tenth Plan, Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 72.35 crore had been provided to the State Government of Orissa for 37 tourism projects.

Tourism infrastructure development fund

1024. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India for the first time is considering to set up tourism infrastructure development fund with the help of reputed financial institutions including the Asian Development Bank to the tune of $ 1.5 billion;

(b) if so, whether from this fund infrastructure companies would be roped in to build roads, power stations, sewage, etc. in the country's leading tourist destinations;

(c) if so, whether at present many tourist sites do not have these basic infrastructure facilities; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) There is at this stage no ADB proposal for establishing a tourism infrastructure fund.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Development of tourism infrastructure facilities is primarily the responsibility of State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism extends central financial assistance to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for tourism related projects under the scheme for Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations/Circuits and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Tourist circuits in Andhra Pradesh

1025. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of tourist destinations/circuits/fairs/festivals/events in respect of which proposals have been sent to her Ministry by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for approval during the last three years;

(b) the details of the projects out of the above said projects cleared so far, along with those which are still pending for clearance, item-wise, separately; and

(c) the amount sanctioned/released so far against each proposal and the physical achievement made in developing tourism destinations, circuits, etc. during the last three years, event and item-wise, separately?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Details of project proposals prioritized by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in consultation with the Ministry of Tourism during the last three years is given in Statement-I (*See* below). Project proposals, submitted by the State Government which are complete in all respect, are appraised as per guidelines and processed on the basis of *inter-se*-priority and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head during the concerned financial year.

Details of projects sanctioned and amount released during the last three years to Andhra Pradesh is given in Statement-II (*See* below). No project proposal, complete in all respect, has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in the current financial year.

The implementation of the projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism is the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Ministry of Tourism regularly monitors the progress of projects sanctioned for Central Financial Assistance.

***Statement*-I**

Details of project proposals prioritized for grant of Central Financial Assistance during last three years

Year	Destination development	Tourist Circuit	Fairs/festivals/events
1	2	3	4
2004-05	(a) Bhavani Island (b) Khammam (c) Bhadrachalam	(a) Kurnool circuit (b) Qutub Shahi circuit	No fairs/festivals/ events prioritized.